

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

31 JANUARY 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. France-Common
Market

a. The Five have so far maintained solidarity against the French. For example, France's desire to reduce tariffs on certain Soviet exports which would benefit Franco-Soviet trade are likely to be rejected out of hand.

b. For their part, the British feel it would be unwise to push the Five too hard right now, although they and the Five have agreed to maintain closest possible contact. A meeting of the EFTA has been set for mid-February and Canada is pressing for another Commonwealth conference to take stock.

c. Spaak and some others have in mind using the West European Union as a device to maintain a relationship between Britain and the Five (any WEU treaty member can call a meeting and there is no veto).

e. In this scheme the Five and Britain could work out a political treaty comparable to the Franco-German one which could provide for cooperation in defense, possibly including agreement to cooperate in a multilateral nuclear force within NATO. France would be invited to subscribe, and, if De Gaulle refuses, he will find himself isolated in the very arenas which he aspires most to dominate.

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f. In the aftermath, there is much noise over the current or forthcoming visits of several top French officials to Madrid. Ambassadors Bohlen and Woodward both discount the possibility of any new Franco-Spanish relationship, but do see the meetings as part of a continuing effort by both countries to fit Spain closer into the European context.

2. Philippines-
UK

a. The British have been unable to talk Manila out of its claim to North Borneo [REDACTED]

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b. Throughout, the Filipinos defended Sukarno and Indonesia [REDACTED]

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c. Manila is evidently betting that Indonesia will succeed in defeating the Malaysia scheme.

d. Malaya has recalled its ambassador from Djakarta, "because of strained relations" between the two countries.

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3. India-Communist
China

a. [redacted]

[redacted] a compromise whereby Chinese civil posts should be allowed in a demilitarized zone in Ladakh, while Nehru in return should drop his demand that Indian troops return to the McMahon line in the northeast.

b. Indonesian Foreign Minister Subandrio is now in India, evidently intent on promoting direct talks between India and China. [redacted]

c. Even if the Chinese were to agree to such a compromise, Nehru would find it hard to do so in view of his commitment to Parliament not to negotiate unless Peiping accepts the Colombo proposals "in toto."

4. Congo

a. Leopoldville politicians are still puzzling over how best to get Tshombé out of the act.

b. They have lost enthusiasm for the idea of a joint convocation of the two Katangan assemblies (north and south) which they hoped at one time would vote him out. It now appears that there is considerable

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opposition in the north to any move toward reunifying the province, and Tshombé has been working quietly on some of the Baluba chiefs there whom Leopoldville had counted on to oppose Tshombé.

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5. Yemen

Yemeni troops were abandoning hill tops and areas east of Sana which they were assigned to defend.

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b. The royalists have managed, to change the allegiance of several tribes in this area. Apparently propaganda that the Sana regime is anti-religious is having some effect.

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c. The situation is bad enough for Nasir to send Field Marshal Amer back to Yemen to look into it. He left Cairo yesterday.

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d. It should be noted, however, that all this is going on in the mountainous tribal areas where the revolutionary grip has never been strong. Its hold on the major population centers has not so far been threatened.

e. Sallal is backing away from his earlier opposition to a UN-appointed mediator

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NOTES

- A. Algeria If an Algerian policy against Bloc military aid ever existed, it no longer does. The Algerian defense ministry is advertising for student engineers to attend a 30-month course in the USSR.
- B. USSR The Soviet press says Russian scientists are ready to build "black boxes" which will collect, record and evaluate seismic disturbances and "automatically erase data pertaining to natural disturbances such as earthquakes."
- C. Cuba The Cuban military continue to show a sensitive interest in Cayo Frances, an island a few miles off the coast of Las Villas Province. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] some kind of construction project involving both Soviet and Cuban personnel possibly connected with oil exploration-- is underway at the western end. [REDACTED]

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- F. Britain The opposition is still half-convinced Macmillan will spring an early call for new elections and rumors to this effect abound, but Ambassador Bruce believes he will hold off until October at the earliest and possibly until late next year.
- G. Guatemala The growing possibility that ex-President Arevalo will return soon to begin campaigning for election at the year's end, has generated a new wave of plotting to unseat Ydigoras and clamp down on electioneering. Ydigoras, however, has been most skillful in exploiting disagreements among the many groups plotting his overthrow.

DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

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